Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 3, 2010 – 8:15 A.M.
McHenry County Division of Transportation
Main Conference Room
Woodstock, Illinois 60098

Chairperson Anna May Miller
Ed Dvorak Paula Yensen
Virginia Peschke Daniel Ryan
Sandra Salgado Scott Breeden

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Miller called the meeting to order at 8:15 A.M.

## **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Chairperson Miller, Ed Dvorak, Sandra Salgado, Paula Yensen, Virginia Peschke and Daniel Ryan

#### **MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

Scott Breeden

Ms. Yensen arrived at 8:20 A.M.

Ms. Peschke arrived at 8:26 A.M.

# OTHER ATTENDEES

In attendance were: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Joe Korpalski, Director of Transportation/County Engineer; Jeff Young, Division of Transportation, Assistant County Engineer; Wally Dittrich, Division of Transportation, Design Manager; Mark Mathewson, MROWCO; Charles Eldredge, McHenry County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC); Diane Lucas, HLR, Inc.; Todd Bright, TranSystems Corporation; Omar Nashif, Collins Engineers, Inc.; Robert Rollings, Bollinger Lach and Associates, Inc.; John Clark and Alix Peralte, STV Architects, Inc.; Mary Moltmann and Ed Bennett, Fleming Road Alliance (FRA); Mark DeVries, Division of Transportation, Maintenance Superintendent; Ed Markison, Division of Transportation, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent; Mark Dammyer, Division of Transportation, Construction Manager; Cha Lee, Division of Transportation, Consultant Project/Design Engineer; Wynnyth Adair, Division of Transportation, Drainage Engineer; Jason Osborn, Division of Transportation, Principal Transportation Planner; Ray Beets, Division of Transportation, Permit/Developer Project Manager; Sarah Chadderdon, Division of Transportation, Transportation Planner; Chalen Daigle, Planning Liaison; Debra Kroll, Division of Transportation, Administrative Specialist.

Ms. Yensen arrived at 8:20 A.M.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Mary Moltmann, Fleming Road Alliance (FRA) addressed her concerns and offered feedback regarding communication with MCDOT on the Fleming Road project. (document offered for the record)
- Charles Eldredge, MCEDC offered his congratulations to re-elected County Board members and his well wishes to Mr. Dvorak on his upcoming retirement.

# <u>APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2010</u>

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the meeting minutes of October 20, 2010 were approved as presented.

A voice vote was taken with all members present voting "aye"; motion carried.

Ms. Peschke arrived at 8:26 A.M.

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#### **PRESENTATIONS**

# McHenry County Transit Program

McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff provided an update on bus transit planning and operational activities in McHenry County.

Since the County Board adopted the Transit Plan in 2005, MCDOT staff has been working with the Implementation Task Force (ITF) to execute the first phase of the Transit Plan, which was to coordinate paratransit activities.

This past summer, the Finance and Audit and Transportation Committees concurred with the execution for the filing of applications for Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC), New Freedom (NF), and sub-regional planning grants with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). The County has been notified by the RTA that approximately \$800,000.00 in JARC/NF monies and \$120,000.00 in sub-regional planning grant monies is on track to be awarded to the County. This funding will help implement the finish of the first phase of the transit plan and start the second phase of the transit plan, aimed at restructuring Pace services.

MCDOT staff receives phone call registrants on a day to day basis, (1,300 registrants thus far), spending one-third to one-half of their work day on this process. Registrant examples were provided.

MCDOT staff recommended that the restructuring of the bus transit services study be performed and tied in as part of the long-range transportation planning process, to better leverage the \$200,000.00 Federal Unified Work Program grant for the public involvement.

If awarded, the JARC and NF grants will mean the consolidation of contracts between Pace, the City of Crystal Lake, the City of McHenry, the City of Woodstock and the County. The sub-regional study is to be adopted by the Pace Board.

The Committee offered their concurrence for MCDOT staff to move forward with the program and to retain the consultant services of TranSystems Corporation for the restructuring of the services study.

The Committee thanked staff for the presentation.

#### Alden Road

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff with HLR, Inc. provided the Committee with an update on the Alden Road project. MCDOT staff and HLR, Inc. have been working to refine the Alden Road design to minimize impacts. This has also involved meeting with project stakeholders and working with the Alden Road Stakeholders Group to address concerns and obtain input into this effort.

HLR, Inc. and MCDOT staff updated the Committee on events that have taken place over the last year regarding the continuation of the design process for the Alden Road rehabilitation project, what transpired at the stakeholder meetings, topics covered on safety and pavement, reduction of impacts and direction to move forward.

The following topics were discussed at the Stakeholder meetings held:

# Meeting #1

- Organization of a Stakeholder Group
- Stakeholder Group purpose
- Proposed project objectives
- Project schedule

### Meeting #2

- Zoning
- Crash Statistics
- Right-of-Way needs

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### Meeting #3

- Zoning details
- Setbacks
- Right-of-Way needs

### Topics discussed at meetings:

- Roadside safety
- High crash locations
- Pavement conditions
- Approach to reducing impacts to sensitive parcels

# Next Steps

- Public Hearing
- Complete Phase I Study

Discussions ensued and the Committee offered their concurrence for MCDOT staff to move forward with the next Public Hearing.

Chairperson Miller requested that a summarization of information offered at today's presentation be provided to all County Board members.

The Committee thanked HLR, Inc. and MCDOT staff for the presentation.

# RESOLUTION APPROVING A WETLAND CREDIT AGREEMENT FOR THE DUNHAM ROAD BRIDGE PROJECT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of the resolution approving an agreement with Ecological Planning, Inc. to purchase wetland credits for the County Dunham Road Bridge project.

The Dunham Road Bridge project is planned for a construction start this winter (a November 2010 letting is anticipated). As part of the project, the Dunham Road Bridge over the North Branch of the Kishwaukee River will be replaced and widened encroaching onto high quality wetlands in the Kishwaukee River watershed requiring 1.05 acres of total mitigation. As the wetland contains essential habitat, the rate of replacement for these wetlands are 3:1.

The Transportation Committee previously approved an agreement with LRH Mitigation Bank at the September 1, 2010 transportation committee meeting. Subsequent to the purchase of these credits and further coordination with the Chicago Army Corps of Engineers office it has been determined that LRH was in violation of their agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers and were not authorized to sell wetland credits. The funds the County previously paid LRH have been refunded.

The agreement has been reviewed by the County's State's Attorney Office (SAO).

On a motion by Mr. Dvorak, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the resolution approving a wetland credit agreement for the Dunham Road Bridge project and appropriating funds was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

# RESOLUTION APPROVING A WETLAND CREDIT AGREEMENT FOR THE UNION ROAD BRIDGE PROJECT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests the approval of this resolution approving a wetland credit agreement for the Union Road Bridge project and appropriating funds.

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The Union Road Bridge project is planned for a construction start next spring (a March 2011 letting is anticipated). As part of the project, the Union Road Bridge over the South Branch of the Kishwaukee River will be replaced and widened encroaching onto high quality wetlands in the Kishwaukee River watershed requiring 0.69 acres of total mitigation. As the wetland contains essential habitat, the rate of replacement for these wetlands are 3:1.

Ecological Planning, Inc. has provided credits to the County in the past and are approved by the Chicago Army Corps of Engineers to sell the County these credits.

The agreement has been reviewed by the County's State's Attorney Office (SAO).

On a motion by Mr. Dvorak, seconded by Ms. Salgado, the resolution approving a wetland credit agreement for the Union Road Bridge project and appropriating funds was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

# RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE JAMES R. RAKOW ROAD PROJECT

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff requests approval of the resolution approving a supplemental engineering services agreement with Bollinger Lach and Associates, Inc. (BLA) for construction management and inspection services for the Rakow Road widening and reconstruction from Ackman Road to Illinois Route 31.

Due to the scope of this reconstruction project on Rakow Road, the MCDOT does not have the resources available to directly supervise this project and continue to perform other required duties within the County.

Interviews were held on September 2, 2009 by the Transportation Committee in which BLA was selected as the preferred consultant. An advance contract with BLA for early start up services was approved by the County Board on December 15, 2009. The scope of services for this agreement includes extensive public coordination, all Phase III engineering duties necessary for the project including being the prime public contact, as well as material testing.

The contract is for a "not to exceed" amount of \$3,485,722.96 to be paid from the RTA Sales Tax fund. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has reviewed this agreement.

On a motion by Ms. Peschke, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the resolution approving a construction engineering services agreement and appropriating funds for the James R. Rakow Road project was approved with a recommendation to the County Board.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Blivin Street Bridge Update

A brief update was offered to Committee members by the McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff:

- The "bridge snooper," a specialized piece of equipment, finally arrived at the bridge and engineers were able to get under the bridge to remove loose concrete and to stabilize the bridge.
- Engineers who performed the work were able to inspect the bridge, which proved to be more deteriorated than previously thought. Calculations were provided to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and MCDOT received approval for the bridge to be open to one (1) lane of traffic with a 20-ton weight limit.
- MCDOT is in the process of bidding out a traffic control contract.
- MCDOT staff will conduct monthly inspections of the bridge.
- Bracing or a form of support could be needed for the bridge because of a beam concern.
- Maintenance staff will conduct a daily check for traffic control.

• Construction is possible for the summer/fall of 2011, but will need to be determined. Once construction begins, a full detour will be put into place.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Western Algonquin Bypass Letter of Intent (LOI)

McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff will receive a letter from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) regarding the Jurisdictional Transfer (JT) of Algonquin Road as part of the Western Algonquin Bypass project. Illinois Route 31 will be moved to the west. The State designated route will shift with what will become the new bypass. Existing Illinois Route 31 will be a JT to the Village of Algonquin.

The County controls a section of road that is west of Illinois Route 31 identified as Algonquin Road, which will be transferred to IDOT. The Illinois Route 62 designation would extend to the new Western Algonquin Bypass. IDOT has agreed to assume ownership of that section, including the retaining wall. After the jurisdictional transfer has been completed, the County will no longer be responsible for that portion. The transfer of maintenance and jurisdiction will be conveyed to IDOT at no cost to the County.

Discussions ensued and the Committee concurred to the Jurisdictional Transfer of Algonquin Road as designated to IDOT.

#### APWA Reporter

The McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT) staff congratulated and recognized Mr. DeVries' efforts on the three (3) articles that were published in the November 2010 issue of the American Public Works Association (APWA) Reporter:

- Snow, Ice and the Great Northwest
- Snow and ice across the continent
- The International Winter Road Congress comes to North America

Copies of the APWA Reporter were available for viewing.

# EXECUTIVE SESSION - Land Acquisition, Meeting Minutes, and Pending Litigation

On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the Committee went into Executive Session at 9:20 A.M. to discuss land acquisition, pending litigation and to review meeting minutes.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

# REGULAR SESSION

On a motion by Ms. Yensen, seconded by Mr. Ryan, the Committee went into Regular Session at 9:47 A.M.

A roll call vote was taken with all members present voting "yes"; motion carried.

Chairperson Miller noted that "no action" was taken in Executive Session.

The Executive Session Meeting minutes of October 20, 2010 were reviewed and by direction of the Committee will be forwarded to the McHenry County State's Attorney office (SAO) for review and release.

# **MEMBER COMMENTS**

• Ms. Yensen shared with the Committee that on a recent trip to Michigan she encountered numerous roundabouts. She was told that initially roundabouts were a controversial issue but were no longer a problem, noting that accidents have declined at most roundabout intersections. She noted that the landscaping and designs were a very positive feature and believes that roundabouts add to the character of the locale.

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION**

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8:15 A.M. on November 17, 2010 – McHenry County Division of Transportation

ADJOURNMENT
On a motion by Ms. Salgado, seconded by Ms. Yensen, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 A.M. A voice vote was taken with all members present voting "aye"; motion carried.

